

Properties of Minerals Notes Review

Name _____ Date: _____

Table: _____ Section: _____

1. Write a definition of “mineral” in your own words.
2. What does it mean to say that a mineral is inorganic?
3. Amber is a precious material used in jewelry. It forms when the resin of pine trees hardens into stone. Is amber a mineral? Give evidence for your answer.
4. Name eight properties that can be used to identify minerals.
5. What is the difference between fracture and cleavage?

Performance Task: Classifying

1. Use your fingernail to try to scratch talc, calcite, and quartz. Record which minerals you were able to scratch.
2. Scratch the minerals with a penny. Were your results different? Explain.
3. Were there any minerals you were unable to scratch with either the penny or your fingernail?
4. In order of increasing hardness, how would you classify the three minerals?